

CLAIMS

1. An image pickup device for picking up an image of a given subject, comprising:

image pickup means for picking up the image;

control means for permitting image data, corresponding to the image picked up by the image pickup means, to be recorded in a given record medium or a given external record device;

connection means for connection to the external record device;

connection detecting means for detecting a connection to the external record device through the connection means; and

transfer processing means controlled by the control means for transferring the image data, recorded in the record medium, to the external record device when the connection detection means detects the connection to the external record device.

2. The image pickup device according to claim 1, wherein the control means allows the image data, corresponding to the image picked up by the image pickup device, to be recorded in the external record device during a period in which the connection means connects the image pickup device

to the external record device.

3. The image pickup device according to claim 1, further comprising:

judgment means for making judgment depending on a size of the image data and an available memory of the record medium whether or not the record medium is able to store the image data;

wherein the control means allows the image data to be saved in the record medium or to be transferred to the external record device through the transfer processing means depending on a judgment result of the judgment means.

4. The image pickup device according to claim 3, wherein the control means allows the image data to be recorded in the record medium regardless of whether or not the image pickup device is connected to the external record device by the connection means when the judgment means makes judgment that the record device is able to record the image data.

5. The image pickup device according to claim 4, wherein the control means is operative such that under a situation where the image pickup device is connected to the external record device through the connection means when the image data is recorded in the record medium under a given file

name, other image data related to the image data is recorded in the external record device under another file name for consolidation to the image data recorded under the given file name.

6. An external record device comprising:

connection means connectable to an image pickup device;

connection detecting means for detecting that the image pickup device is connected by the connection means;

readout means for reading out image data, picked up by the image pickup means, through the connection means when the connection detecting means detects that the image pickup device is connected by the connection means; and

saving means for saving the image data read out by the readout means.

7. The external record device according to claim 6, wherein:

the saving means comprises a hard disk device;

and further comprising:

speed control means for decreasing a rotational speed of a platter forming the hard disk device when a voice is recorded under a condition in which the image pickup device is connected.

8. In image pickup system having an image pickup device for picking up an image of a given subject and an external record device for saving the image picked up by the image pickup device,

the image pickup device comprising:

image pickup means for picking up the image;

control means for allowing image data, corresponding to the image picked up by the image pickup means, to be recorded in a given record medium or a given external record device;

first connection means connectable to the external record device;

first connection detecting means for detecting that the image pickup device is connected to the external saving means through the connection means; and

transfer processing means controlled by the control means for transferring the image data, recorded in the record medium, to the external record device when the first connection detection means detects that the external record device is connected by the first connection means; and

the external record device comprising:

second connection means connectable to an image pickup device;

second connection detecting means for detecting that the image pickup device is connected by the connection

means; and

saving means for saving the image data, transferred by the transfer processing means, and the image data picked up by the image pickup means when the second connection detecting means detects that the image pickup device is connected by the second connection means.

9. A control method for an image pickup system having an image pickup device for picking up an image of a given subject and an external record device operative to be connected to the image pickup device, the control method comprising:

step of detecting whether or not the image pickup device is connected to the external record device;

step of transferring image data, corresponding to the image, from a given record medium of the image pickup device to the external record device when the image pickup device is connected to the external record device;

step of recording the image data in the external record device if the image pickup device is connected to the external record device when an image pickup is commanded; and

step of recording the image data in the record medium of the image pickup device if the image pickup device is not connected to the external record device when the image

pickup is commanded.

10. A control method for an image pickup system having an image pickup device for picking up an image of a given subject and an external record device operative to be connected to the image pickup device, the control method comprising:

- step of detecting whether or not the image pickup device is connected to the external record device;

- step of transferring image data, corresponding to the image, from a given record medium of the image pickup device to the external record device when the image pickup device is connected to the external record device;

- step of detecting an overflow in the record medium of the image pickup device;

- step of recording the image data in the external record device if the image pickup device is connected to the external record device and the overflow occurs in the record medium when the image pickup is commanded; and

- step of recording the image data in the record medium of the image pickup device if no overflow occurs in the record medium even with the image pickup device being connected to the external record device when the image pickup is commanded.

11. A control method for an image pickup system having an image pickup device for picking up an image of a given subject and a hard disk device operative to be connected to the image pickup device, the control method comprising:

step of detecting whether or not the image pickup device is connected to the hard disk device;

step of detecting that the image pickup device has a voice input; and

step of recording the image data upon decreasing a platter rotational speed of the hard disk device if the image pickup device is connected to the hard disk device and the image pickup device has the voice input when the image pickup is commanded.

12. A program executable in a computer for an image pickup system having an image pickup device for picking up an image of a given subject and an external record device operative to be connected to the image pickup device, comprising:

step of detecting whether or not the image pickup device is connected to the external record device;

step of transferring image data, corresponding to the image, from a given record medium of the image pickup device to the external record device when the image pickup device is connected to the external record device;

step of recording the image data in the external record device if the image pickup device is connected to the external record device when the image pickup is commanded; and

step of recording the image data in the record medium of the image pickup device if the image pickup device is not connected to the external record device when the image pickup is commanded.

13. A program executable in a computer for an image pickup system having an image pickup device for picking up an image of a given subject and an external record device operative to be connected to the image pickup device, comprising:

step of detecting whether or not the image pickup device is connected to the external record device;

step of transferring image data, corresponding to the image, from a given record medium of the image pickup device to the external record device when the image pickup device is connected to the external record device;

step of detecting an overflow in the record medium of the image pickup device;

step of recording the image data in the external record device if the image pickup device is connected to the external record device and the overflows occurs in the

record medium when the image pickup is commanded; and
step of recording the image data in the record medium
of the image pickup device if no overflow occurs in the
record medium even with the image pickup device being
connected to the external record device when the image
pickup is commanded.

14. A program executable in a computer for an image
pickup system having an image pickup device for picking up
an image of a given subject and a hard disk device operative
to be connected to the image pickup device, the control
method comprising:

step of detecting whether or not the image pickup
device is connected to the hard disk device;

step of detecting that the image pickup device has a
voice input; and

step of recording the image data upon decreasing a
platter rotational speed of the hard disk device if the
image pickup device is connected to the hard disk device and
the image pickup device has the voice input when the image
pickup is commanded.